

MYSORE SALES TAX (THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL, 1961- *Introduction*

Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN (Deputy Minister for Finance).—Sir, I beg to introduce the Mysore Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Bill 1961.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Mysore Sales Tax (Third Amendment) Bill, 1961 is introduced.

MYSORE VILLAGE PANCHAYAT AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1961.

Motion to consider

Sri T. SUBRAMANYA (Minister for Development and Local-Self Government).—Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Mysore Village Panchayat and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1961, be taken into consideration.”

Mr. SPEAKER.—Motion moved :

“That the Mysore Village Panchayat and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1961, be taken into consideration.”

† Sri T. SUBRAMANYA.—Sir, this amendment to the original Act has become necessary after the experience we have had in the working of the Act for a few months. The Bill seeks to amend the rate of octroi to be levied by the various town panchayats. According to the original Act, the rate has to be prescribed uniformly for all the Panchayats by the Government. This we have found to be unsatisfactory and not workable. Therefore, we want to vest the power in the Panchayats themselves so that they might make bye-laws to determine the rate of octroi duty on goods at a rate not higher than what is mentioned in schedule I.

The second amendment is to make the economic promotion and the agricultural progress a compulsory and obligatory duty on the part of the village panchayat and taluk board, not discretionary. We want to invest them with greater power in regard to agricultural production, because the Government wants to process wherever possible the activities through the local bodies and we want to increase the economic progress and agricultural production through the taluk boards and village panchayats. These are the two or three amendments which are sought to be made by this amending Bill. I request the House to pass this Bill.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.—Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has been pleased to give our reasons why he is seeking amendments to the Mysore Village Panchayat Act of 1959. Sir, it has been said that the levy of octroi at rates prescribed by the Government has resulted in some dissatisfaction in some panchayats. I do not know whether the

panchayats functioning under this Act have in fact levied the octroi and whether they recovering. However, Government has conceded that in practice it has been found that the rates fixed by the Government are far from reasonable and are much higher than the octroi leviable in the neighbouring municipal areas and that it has resulted in trade being diverted to neighbouring areas. I wish to make a point in this connection. Government has found that the octroi that is determined under scheduled works out to more than the octroi that is prevailing in the neighbouring municipal areas and inasmuch as the Municipal Uniform Bill introduced and not taken up for consideration, Government ought to have taken steps to secure uniformity in respect of municipal laws in the State of Mysore and they have determined the octroi rate much higher than what is prescribed in the schedule in the original Act of 1959. If such steps had been taken, I do not think there was any necessity for seeking an amendment to this particular sub-section (3) of Section 73. It is said Sir, that the Panchayats have got to augment their resource in order to implement the discretionary and obligatory functions which have been enumerated under the Act and with the most important of the resources at their disposal now is 30 per cent of the land revenue they are not able to implement anything. We have been seeing that the Panchayats are not able to do anything except some drainage work, or getting a well sunk or repairing an existing tank.

Sri P. G. SIDDHANTI.—The octroi is levied only by the Town Panchayats and not Village Panchayats.

Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA.—My submission is that provision has already been made under the original Act empowering the Town Panchayats to levy the octroi and augment its resources so as to implement the several schemes—discretionary and obligatory functions: I do not think it is reasonable now to empower Panchayats to make their own bye-laws to determine the octroi at a rate not higher than those prescribed in the schedule. They have not prescribed any limit. It is left to the option of the Panchayat. Even if they have imposed, it may be a meagre rate in which case; the Panchayats will not be able to augment their resources and that will not be helpful to the Panchayat in any way to implement the several schemes. Therefore, if the Government wanted to see that there is no disparity between the octroi that is to be levied by the Town Panchayat and Municipalities that is prevailing now, they ought to have brought in uniformity and prescribed rates higher than what has been prescribed in the Act of 1959. It is said Sir, that because the rates prevailing in the neighbouring Municipal areas are much higher than that could imposed by the Panchayat, trade has been diverted from the Panchayat to the Municipality. That may be true. We do not suspect their *bona fides*. When our intention is to augment the resources, it is absolutely necessary to see that the rates that are now fixed in the original Bill should been retained and on the other hand, their amendment should

(Sri G. VENKATAI GOWDA)

have been to amend the Municipal Act itself to enhance the octroi that is leviable under the Municipal Act so as to bring about consistency in this matter.

My second point is, it has been said in Clause 8. This gives rise to some other complication which in my opinion defeats the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill because some Panchayats might have already imposed this octroi and it will be continued for ever if they do not choose to bring it down in accordance with the amended Act. In such a case the panchayats that have not already imposed this octroi may have to impose only a lower rate of octroi and thereby there will be no uniformity and thus the same problem will continue for ever and the object of this amendment will be defeated.

Then I come to the amendment for making the development of agriculture an obligatory instead of a discretionary function of the panchayats. Agriculture being an important subject I do not know whether the Panchayats could bestow to it the importance which is due to it within the power vested in them. When the Panchayats are not able to perform even the smaller functions enumerated in Sections 42 and 43, is it possible for them to take up such an important as development of agriculture simply because it is made an obligatory duty instead of discretionary duty. My submission is that in practice it may not be possible for them to do all these things on account of non-availability of resources and the necessary personnel. As you know some of the Panchayats have just commenced work. In my taluk only half a dozen are working. Those Panchayats that were in existence prior to the coming into force of this new Act are functioning to a certain extent. In this connection I have to request the Minister to see that some incentive is given to Panchayats to see that the functions enumerated here are taken up by them and some useful work is done in the village.

†Sri R. NAGAN GOWDA.—Sir, I wish to support the amendments proposed by the Hon'ble Minister specially the amendment to Section 42 making it obligatory on the part of Panchayats to take up development of agriculture. Though Panchayats do not have enough funds, still I feel there are some functions which the panchayats could easily do for the development of agriculture and increase the per acre yield. They can prepare compost manure from village sweepings and other things and sell it by auction. This is one of the most important functions which the Panchayats can do. In Panchayats it is not done to the extent it ought to be done. This is done very successfully in many of the municipalities.

Then they can take up multiplication of improved seeds. For many of the crops like paddy, jola, ragi, we have got improved varieties of seeds. Improved seeds are now being grown in State Seed Farms and

their distribution could be taken up by village panchayats. I am glad that the Minister has brought forward these amendments. There are some other functions also which the panchayats could do in course of time. Development of agriculture is the most important function which they can do and I am glad that this function is made their obligatory function.

†ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಎಸ್. ಶಂಕರಪ್ಪ (ಹೊಸದುರ್ಗ).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಆಕ್ಟ್ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಮೇಲೆ ಇದರಿಂದ ಬಹಳ ತಾಪತ್ರಯಗಳಿವೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಚೇರ್ಮನ್ ಮತ್ತು ವೈಸ್ ಚೇರ್ಮನ್ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ ನಡೆಸಿದರು. ಆ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿಸ್‌ಕನ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇರತಕ್ಕಂಥ ಕಷ್ಟ ಸುಖಗಳನ್ನು ನಿವೇದನೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ವಿಚಾರವಾಗಿ ಕೂಡ ಅನೇಕ ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್ನುಗಳ ಅಮೆಂಡ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಆಗಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆಯೆಂದು ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದುದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಮೆಂಡ್‌ಮೆಂಟುಗಳನ್ನು ತಂದು ಅನುಕೂಲ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಡವಾದುದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಮೆಂಡ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ತರುತ್ತಾ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಮನಲ ಶಾಂಡಿಗಳು (ನಂತಗಳು) ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಏರಿಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತವೆ. ಶಾಂಡಿ ಮೃದಾನವನ್ನು ಕ್ಲೀನ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು, ಸ್ಯಾನಿಟೇಷನ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು, ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಸುಂಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಭಾಗ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬರಬೇಕು. ಹಿಂದೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಇದ್ದ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸುಂಕದಲ್ಲಿ 25 ಪರ್ಸೆಂಟು ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟು 75 ಪರ್ಸೆಂಟನ್ನು ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟು ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಈಗ ಸುಂಕವನ್ನು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನವರು ವಸೂಲು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಂಟ್ರಿಬ್ಯೂಶನ್ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಾ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್ನುಗೆ ಅಮೆಂಡ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ತಂದು, ಒಂದು ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್ ವಿಲೇಜ್ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸೂಚನೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.

†ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಎಲ್. ನಾರಾಯಣಸ್ವಾಮಿ (ಮುಳಬಾಗಿಲು).—ಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೆರಡು ಮಾತುಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ದೇಶದ ಪೂರನಭಿಗಳ ಲ್ಲರತಕ್ಕ ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿದರ ಬಹಳ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇದೆ. 1951ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಯಾರು ಮಾಡಿದಂಥ ಆಕ್ಟನ್ನು ಅನುಸರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಅದು ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಈಗಿನ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಅದು ಅಷ್ಟಾಗಿ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದನ್ನು ಜಾಸ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಪೌರಸಭೆಯವರೂ ಕೂಡ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಾದಷ್ಟು ಮನವಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೂ ಅದು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಬಿಲ್ಲು ತಯಾರಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗ್ಯೂ ಈ ಸಭೆಯ ಪರ್ಯಾಲೋಚನೆಗೆ ಬಂದಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೋ ಹೇಳಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಬಿಲ್ಲು ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆಯೆಂದು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಚಿವರಲ್ಲಿ ಆರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ, ಭೇಗ ಮಾಡೋಣ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಕನಿಷ್ಠಪಕ್ಷ ತಡ್ಯೂರ್ ಆಫ್ ರೇಟ್ಸ್ ಏನಾದರೂ ರಿವೈಸ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಈ ಸಭೆಯ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ಪಡೆಯಿರಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆವು, ಏಕೋ ಅದು ಕೂಡ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಎಂಬುದಾಗಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತೇನೆ.

10-00 A. M.

ಈ ಸಿಟಿ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಟೌನ್ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿ ದರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಳ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಿದೆ ಹಿಂದಿನ ಪೆಡ್ಯೂಲಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಈಗ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಐಟಂಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಎಂದು ವಿಧಾಯಕವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಣಕ್ಕೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ಎಂಬುದಾಗಿಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲ, ಅನೇಕ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಧಾರಣೆವಾಸಿಗಳ ದರಗಳೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕಡಮೆಯಾಗಿ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಾಗಿವೆ. ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗೆ ಒಂದು ಅಡಿಕೆ ಮೂಟೆಗೆ 6 ಕಾಸು ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿ ದರವಿದೆ. ಅಂದಮೇಲೆ ನಾಲ್ಕು ಮೂಟೆಗೆ 2 ಆಫ್ ಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ 400ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ಬೆಲೆ ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಒಂದು ಅಡಿಕೆ ಮೂಟೆಗೆ ಕೇವಲ 2 ಆಫ್ ಮಾತ್ರ ಆಕ್ಟಾಯಿ ತೆರಿಗೆಯಾದಂತಾಯಿತು. ಅದೇ 400 ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳ ಬೆಲೆ ಇರತಕ್ಕ ಜವಳಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡರೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ತೆರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

(ಶ್ರೀ ಬಿ. ಎಸ್. ನಾರಾಯಣಸ್ವಾಮಿ)

ಅದರಿಂದ ಆದಾಯವೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಿರುವಾಗ ಒಂದೇ ತರನಾದ ಸಮವಾಗಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಕಬೇಕೆಂದು ಇದ್ದೀರಿ. ಅನೇಕ ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಚಿವರೇ ನಮ್ಮ ಆದಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ಈಗಿನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈಗಿನ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ಪಡ್ಡೂರ್ ಆಫ್ ರೇಷನ್ಸ್ ರಿವೈಜ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಇವರೇ ದೇಶದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಉತ್ತಮಸ್ಥಿತಿಗೆ ಬರುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಸಿಟಿ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ರಾಂತಿಯ ದರವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಈ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟಾಕ್ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಆಕ್ರಾಂತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡಮೆಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಈ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಂದಿರುವ ನಿಮ್ಮ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಬಂಡಿತವಾಗಿ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾಗಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ನಾನು ಹೇಳಬಯಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಮೊದಲನೆಯದಾಗಿ ಸಿಟಿ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿರತಕ್ಕ ಆಕ್ರಾಂತಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ರಿವೈಜ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಅನಂತರ ಟಾಕ್ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿ ಆಕ್ರಾಂತಿ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ರಿವೈಜ್ ಮಾಡೋಣ.

ಇನ್ನು ಎರಡನೆಯದಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಗ್ರಿಕಲ್ ಚರರ್ ಇಂಪ್ರಿಮೆಂಟ್ಸ್ ಎಷ್ಟರ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿವೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ವಿಚಾರ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ನನ್ನ ಪೂರ್ಣವಾದ ನಂಬಿಕೆಯಿಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಈಗ ಅಷ್ಟಾಗಿದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಈಗಿರತಕ್ಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳು ಎಷ್ಟರಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿವೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸರವು ಅವುಗಳಿಗೆ ಎಷ್ಟರಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದರೆ ನಿಜವಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಎಲ್ಲ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಆದಳಿತ ವಿಚಕ್ಷಣೆಯಿಂದ ನಡೆಯಲಾರದು. ನಿಜವಾಗಿ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ಸರವು ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಗ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಟೆಕ್ನಿಕಲ್ ಗೈಡೆನ್ಸ್ ಸಹ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಇಂತಹ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಆ ಕೆಲಸಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಶಕ್ತಿಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲವೇನೋ ಎಂಬ ಸಂದೇಹ ನನಗಿಗಲುತ್ತಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಕಡೆಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಷ್ಟಾಗಿ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಇಂತಹ ಕೆಲಸಗಳನ್ನು ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಹಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಕೆಲಸ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಆಗಲಾರವು. ಈಗ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಅವುಗಳಿಗೆ ವಹಿಸುವುದು ಬೇಡ. ಅವರಿಗೆ ಈಗ ವಹಿಸಿರತಕ್ಕ ಕೆಲಸ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವವರೆಗೂ ಈ ಮನವಿಯನ್ನು ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಇಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಾನು ಪಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

†Sri T. SUBRAMANYA.—Whenever we think of village panchayats, we intend to invest greater powers in them so that they might become powerful local units. Now by investing them with the power of economic and agricultural development in villages, it does not mean the Government will be absolved of its functions. We are going to give them more powers, more resources, more functions at their disposal whenever we want to ask them to do more things. In this case with regard to agriculture, small items of work, if they are attended to not by Government officers, but by the local people, particularly the village panchayats, a revolutionary change will come about in agriculture. Now we have been seeing in the last few years that we have been crying at the topmost breath of our voice that

compost pit must be in every village. We have not made progress in spite of the fact that our officers are exacting to the utmost. Therefore we want the local bodies to take the initiative in this case. So also the preservation of cattle urin. That gives more nutrition to the soil than any other kind of fertilizers. Therefore we would invest them with more powers and ask them to do it. If they do not do it, then they will come for criticism at the hands of the public. Without giving them money we do not want to ask them to do anything. We have invested in them about 33 schemes of ours and we are processing the money through the local bodies. The process has begun and it will continue till.

The second question is about octroi. Under the Municipalities Act, even now the Municipalities do not have uniform rates. Different Municipalities levy different rates of octroi. So also here instead of fixing an uniform rate of octroi we will leave it to the village panchayats. They will use discretion. In order to see that the trade and commerce does not suffer in that village, we vest them with powers to fix a rate, not more than the rate fixed in the schedule mentioned in the act. Therefore instead of our prescribing the rate, say at 2 per cent *ad valorem*, we leave it to the discretion of the village panchayats. I do not see any objection to this being done because this is the custom and practice that is prevailing in every municipality and every local body. We want the law to be a little flexible so that the village panchayat may apply their mind not merely carry out the Orders of Government. Therefore any objection on this subject, with all due deference to my friends, is not acceptable to me.

The third point is about the reduction in octroi. Hitherto under Section 75, we have powers to suspend levy of octroi. What happened is: suppose we have fixed Rs. 3 *ad valorem*, they are now levying Rs. 3. We send notice to both parties, hear them and we find out if there is anything unreasonable and then suspend the levy of octroi. That means a little loss to the village panchayat. Therefore we want to have power in the Government either to suspend or to reduce.

These are the simple amendments. I know there are several amendments necessary to this Act. I have brought forward only a few amendments. A comprehensive amending bill will be brought forward in due course, I think just after elections, by new Government. With these few words I commend the Bill. It is very essential. Without any difference of opinion it must be accepted by the Hon'ble Members of this House.

MR. SPEAKER.—The question is:

“That the Mysore Village Panchayat and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1961, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER.—Clauses 1 to 8. The question is :

“That Clauses 1 to 8 both inclusive, and the Preamble stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

“Clauses 1 to 8 both inclusive, and the Preamble were added to the Bill.”

Motion to pass.

SRI T. SUBRAMANYA.—I beg to move :

“That the Mysore Village Panchayat and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1961, be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

THE MYSORE NURSES, MIDWIVES AND HEALTH VISITORS BILL, 1960.

Motion to Consider.

SRI K. K. HEGDE.—I beg to move :

“That the Mysore Nurses Midwives and Health Visitors Bill, 1960 be taken into consideration.”

MR. SPEAKER.—Motion moved :

“That the Mysore Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill, 1960 be taken into consideration.”

†SRI K. K. HEGDE.—Sir, this Bill is long overdue. It is an important measure covering thousands of nurses, midwives and visitors in the State. The bill is designed to have uniformity in law throughout the State.

SRI M. C. NARASIMHAN.—Before the Minister proceeds further, I should state that we are taken by surprise. We did not know this bill would come up for consideration. The agenda papers came to us only this morning and we have not read the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER.—The agenda was circulated on Saturday evening. The Minister has moved the Bill for consideration and we might postpone it, if Hon'ble Members so desire.

Motion to postpone consideration.

SRI M. C. NARASIMHAN.—I beg to move :

“That the consideration of the Mysore Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Bill, 1960, be postponed till this afternoon.”